

REMARKS

Applicant is in receipt of the Office Action mailed January 25, 2008.

Claims

Claims 1-25 were pending. Claims 26 and 27 were added. Claims 20-25 have been cancelled. Claims 1-19 and 26-27 are therefore pending.

Election/Restriction

The Examiner withdrew claims 20-25 from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. Applicant has cancelled claims 20-25. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to file a divisional to pursue the subject matter of cancelled claims 20-25.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 8-9, and 14-15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kohashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,642,960) (hereinafter "Kohashi"). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection.

Kohashi does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least "calculating... interpolation errors..." as recited in claim 1. For example, Kohashi teaches:

By using such 9 pattern forms in representing the relative signal levels of the pixel groups in the four directions of "U", "D", "R", "L", in a manner corresponding to the pixel positions, the relative signal levels of the eight pixels around the fault pixel are **made into a pattern by means of the four sets of patterns** (step 32-3). Thus obtained pattern of the relative signal levels of the four sets of pixel groups in the surrounding region is **then compared with previously set patterns** (step 32-4). In particular, all possible patterns are previously provided and the pattern obtained from the relative signal levels of the pixel groups in the surrounding region is compared with the provided patterns. (emphasis added) (Kohashi, col. 14, line 59 – col. 15, line 3).

Kohashi discloses **forming and comparing patterns** to determine an edge configuration. Kohashi does not teach or suggest “calculating... interpolation errors” as recited in claim 1. For example, as disclosed in the Applicant’s specification, interpolation errors may be calculated according to:

...the EW error (EWE) and NS error (NSE) are:

$$\text{EWE}(3,4)=\text{abs}(\text{G}(3,2)+\text{G}(3,6)-2*\text{G}(3,4)) \text{ (E-1)}$$

$$\text{NSE}(3,4)=\text{abs}(\text{G}(1,4)+\text{G}(5,4)-2*\text{G}(3,4)) \text{ (E-2)}$$

(Specification, page 12, lines 16-18).

Other embodiments are also contemplated and described in the Applicant’s specification.

Further, Kohashi does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least “selecting a direction **indicated by a minimum of the EW error and the NS error** as the edge direction” as recited in claim 1. As noted above, Kohashi does not even disclose calculating interpolation errors. Applicant also respectfully submits Kohashi also does not disclose determining a minimum of calculated interpolation errors.

Applicant respectfully asserts claim 1 and claims dependent upon claim 1 are allowable for at least the above reasons. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection to claim 1 and claims dependent thereon.

Similarly, Kohashi does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least “calculating... interpolation errors” or “selecting a direction indicated by a minimum of the EW error and the NS error as the edge direction” as recited in claim 8. Applicant respectfully asserts claim 8 and claims dependent upon claim 8 are allowable for at least the above reasons. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection to claim 8 and claims dependent thereon.

Furthermore, Kohashi does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least “calculating... interpolation errors” or “selecting a direction indicated by a minimum of the EW error and the NS error as the edge direction” as recited in claim 14. Applicant respectfully asserts claim 14 and claims dependent upon claim 14 are allowable for at least the above reasons. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejection to claim 14 and claims dependent thereon.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated claims 3-6, 10-13, and 16-19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant respectfully submits claims 3-6, 10-13, and 16-19, dependent on patentably distinct claims 1, 8, and 14, respectively, are also allowable for at least the above reasons. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the objection to the above claims.

The Examiner further indicated claim 7 stands allowed.

New Claims

Applicant respectfully submits new claims 26-27 are also allowable over the cited art. Applicant respectfully notes claims 26-27 were added to clarify that “averaging” in the context of a comparison may include summing values together and dividing by the number of values summed or may include summing values together without dividing by the number of values summed (e.g., see Applicant’s Specification, page 13, lines 1-4).

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above-referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5896-08600/JCH.

Also filed herewith are the following items:

- ☐ Request for Continued Examination
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Power of Attorney By Assignee and Revocation of Previous Powers
- ☐ Notice of Change of Address
- ☐ Other:

Respectfully submitted,

/Jeffrey C. Hood/

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